

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY:S/S:FVORTIZ

APPROVED BY:S/S:ORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 098850 TOSEC 110004

NODIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE APR 23, 1976 FROM TEL AVIV

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2844

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM TOON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT IS

SUBJ: ISRAELI SETTLEMENT ACTIVITIES

REF: STATE 089858

1. IN MY MEETING WITH RABIN THIS MORNING I TOLD PRIME MINISTER THAT I FELT OBLIGED AGAIN TO RAISE WITH HIM THE THORNY QUESTION OF SETTLEMENTS. HIS GOVERNMENT WAS, OF COURSE, FAMILIAR WITH OUR POSITION ON THE SETTLEMENTS ISSUE FROM MY EARLIER CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM, FROM MY TALKS WITH ALLON, AND FROM THE SCRANTON STATEMENT. HOWEVER, I WAS NOW UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM YOU TO GET HIM KNOW THAT IF THERE SHOULD BE ISRAELI POLICY STATEMENTS ABOUT NEW SETTELEMENTS IN OCCUPIED AREAS WE PROBABLY WOULD HAVE TO REACT PUBLICLY. WE DID APPRECIATE THAT THIS WAS A DIFFICULT
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POLITICAL PROBLEM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER, BUT RECALLING HIS

RECENT ADVICE THAT WE SHOULD EMPHASIZE OUR AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND MINIMIZE THE AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT, I SAID IN THIS SPIRIT THAT I WAS RAISING THE MATTER DIRECTLY WITH HIM.

2. IN RESPONSE, RABIN COMMENTED THAT OUR POSITION IS WELL KNOWN TO HIM AND HIS ASSOCIATES. HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO TAKE CERTAIN DECISIONS AND THEY WOULD TRY TO DO IT IN WHAT HE CALLED THE "PROPER WAY". HE SAID HE COULD NOT SAY NOW WHAT THESE DECISIONS WOULD BE SINCE THAT WOULD BE FOR THE CABINET TO DECIDE. THEY WOULD TRY TO FIND A WAY TO SIGNAL US AHEAD OF TIME WHEN THE DECISIONS WERE LIKELY. HE NOTED THAT THE ISSUE HAD BEEN PENDING SINCE THE BEGINNING OF DECEMBER AND THOUGHT IT WOULD NOT ARISE UNTIL AT LEAST SOMETIME IN MAY.

3. I REITERATED THAT WE MAY HAVE TO REACT PUBLICLY TO ANY DECISION CABINET MAY REACH. RABIN SAID HE UNDERSTOOD.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, POLICIES, INSTRUCTIONS, CAT-C, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE098850
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S:FVORTIZ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760003-0431
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760428/aaaaaxfp.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 STATE 89858
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 OCT 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI SETTLEMENT ACTIVITIES
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IS, US, XF, (RABIN, YITZHAK)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006